



# News from 10,000 Feet!

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**March 2012**

**Brian Head Town News**

**Volume 5**

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## **Looking Towards a Brighter Future**

*(By Bryce Haderlie, Brian Head Town Manager)*

As I write this message, we're ending the Presidents' Holiday and have enjoyed what appears to be another great weekend on the mountain. After weeks of very little snow, Mother Nature has blessed us with over a foot of glorious powder and our guests are soaking up the sun.

Each day we get the choice to look at the glass half empty or half full. Seeing that we are celebrating the birthday of Abraham Lincoln, arguably one of our nation's greatest presidents, I can't help but think about his conviction and leadership that pulled an entire nation from one of its darkest hours back to prosperity.

During his famed speech at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, Lincoln said, "It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced." It gives one an opportunity to reflect on what each of us can contribute as citizens of this great nation.

The headlines speak of a slow and methodical transformation out of the economic calamity that has befallen us. We see the same measured change coming about in Brian Head as new buyers assume property with an enthusiastic view of the future. The public safety building has been completed within budget, a new well and pump house will be finished this summer, and staff continues to look for ways to stretch each taxpayer dollar and improve efficiency.

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## **Time Change for Town Council Meetings**

At the Council meeting of January 24, 2012, the Town Council decided to make some tentative changes to its meeting dates and times. For several years the Council meetings have been held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month, starting at 1:00 p.m.

Beginning in February 2012 the Council has decided to have the Town Council meetings held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month starting at 4:00 p.m.

The reason for the meeting change is to better accommodate the public. Since most citizens work during daytime hours, this will make it so more residents can attend the later meetings, if they choose.

This schedule will be followed for a trial period for the next few months. If the Council finds this schedule works better than the prior schedule, it may be followed for the rest of the year. Also, if someone needs to meet with the Council in between scheduled meetings, a second monthly meeting can be held, if necessary, on a case by case basis.

If you need to meet with the Town Council, please contact Nancy Leigh, Town Clerk/Recorder at (435) 677-2029 to get on the agenda. You need to contact her the Wednesday before the scheduled meeting to be on the agenda. The next meeting dates are March 13, 2012; April 10, 2012; May 8, 2012; and June 12, 2012.

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## **Brian Head Town Financial Information**

As with all municipalities, Brian Head Town's fiscal year is from July 1 to June 30. An audit is completed by the Town's Auditor by December 31 each year.

The Town's financial statements and annual audits are available for the public to review. You can access this important information on the State Auditor's web-site at: [www.sao.state.ut.us](http://www.sao.state.ut.us). You will be able to review the financial statements for the past several years.

## Annular Eclipse of the Sun – Brian Head

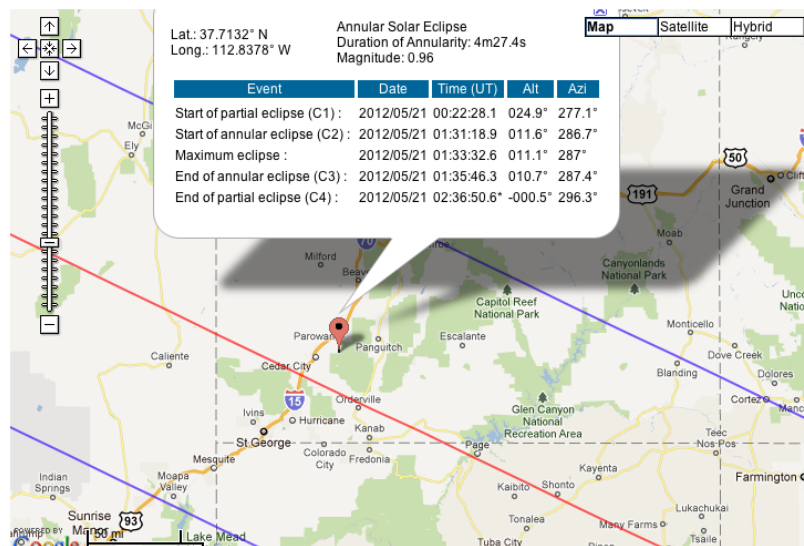
### Sunday Evening – May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012

(By Mike Saemisch)

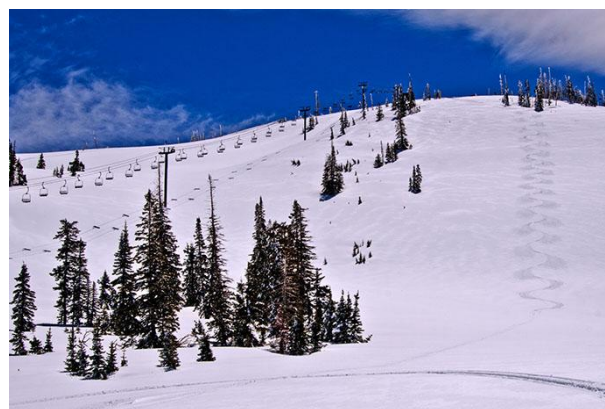
On May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012, the southwestern United States will have the extremely rare opportunity to observe an annular eclipse of the sun. An annular eclipse is where the moon moves directly in front of the sun but is slightly smaller than the sun, so 4% of the sun will be visible as a ring.



This map shows the path of the **Annular Solar Eclipse of 2012 May 20**. The northern and southern path limits are blue and the central line is red. The yellow lines crossing the path indicate the position of maximum eclipse at 10-minute intervals. The four-way toggle arrows (upper left corner) are for navigating around the map. The zoom bar (left edge) is used to change the magnification. The three buttons (top right) turn on either a map view, a satellite view or a hybrid map/satellite view.



This is what Brian Head Resort looked like on May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011. The mountain could be completely covered and the road into the monument likely not open to cars. To get to the best viewing points, you will have to get to a high observing point by sledding or snowshoeing into the monument, etc. There will be eclipse packages offered by the Grand Lodge and Cedar Breaks Lodge. Look for more information in future newsletters. Mark Sunday, May 20, 2012 on your calendar to come and witness this amazing rare event!



Brian Head will be nearly ideal for observing this eclipse (you must be within the blue lines with the red line being the longest eclipse time). The peak of the eclipse will be around 7:33 p.m. local time on the 20<sup>th</sup>. The eclipse will be just above the horizon and will require moving to an elevated position where the sunset down to the horizon can be observed. Such locations would be in Cedar Breaks National Monument, Brian Head Peak, or the top of Chair 2 at the ski area. Being at a higher elevation will give the best viewing above the desert haze.

### On-line Payment Services

Brian Head Town will soon offer new options for our on-line payment services.

Currently we cannot accept credit card payments on anything other than 1) when purchasing bulk water from our bulk water dispenser or; 2) when purchasing gasoline from our fuel tanks. The new system will now accept either credit card payments **or** electronic check payments for anything from utility bill payments to business license payments to building permit payments! Once the new on-line payment plan is set up, it will be added to our web-site at [www.brianheadtown.utah.gov](http://www.brianheadtown.utah.gov). You will see a link on the front page of our web-site directing you to the on-line payment system.

Until we get the new system up and running, you can still access our on-line payment services on our web-site, however, you can only pay with an electronic check.

### Kudos to Mike Saemisch

We want to give a shout-out to one of our own Brian Head Town residents – Mike Saemisch! He recently won a photo contest through the Iron County Today newspaper and has had many Brian Head pictures shown on KSL Television weather. We appreciate him sharing his special artistic talents and have enjoyed his photographs over the years! With his permission, we are publishing a few of his amazing photos for everyone to enjoy! Congratulations Mike!



Fall colors add to the view of Brian Head Peak and Ashdown Gorge Wilderness Area, as seen from the popular High Mountain ATV ride. This picture won KSL TV's picture of the week (10/2/2011) – *photo by Mike Saemisch*



The Milky Way gleams over a Brian Head residence on a typical glorious summer night (9/2/2011) – *photo by Mike Saemisch*



The constellation Orion watches over the annual New Year's Eve Brian Head torchlight parade and fireworks (12/31/2011) - *photo by Mike Saemisch*



### Events in Brian Head – March, April & May, 2012

*(from the Brian Head Chamber of Commerce)*

**March 2** – Scary Weekend at the Resort. Dress scary and get 50% off lift ticket!

**March 3** – Brian Head Spring Carnival (call 866-930-1010 for more information)

**March 9** – Mardi Gras Weekend at the Resort. Wear your beads and get 50% off lift ticket!

**March 24** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Snowmobile Poker Run & Spring Equinox Observation held at Parowan Gap Petroglyphs (call 435-477-3734 for more information)

**March 31** – Brian Head Easter Celebration (for more information call 888-677-2810)

**April 8** – Brian Head Resort closes for winter

### Recommended Adult Immunization Schedule (from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)

Did you know that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that adults get immunizations in addition to children? Following is a recommended immunization schedule for adults:

**Influenza** – ages 19 to >65 years – 1 dose annually

**Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (Td/Tdap)** – Substitute 1-time dose of Tdap for Td booster, then boost with Td every 10 years.

**Varicella** – 2 doses from ages 19 to >65 years

**Human papillomavirus (HPV)** – 3 doses for females between the ages of 19 – 26 years

**Zoster** – 1 dose between the ages of 60 to >65 years

**Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)** – 1 or 2 doses between the ages of 19 to 49 years and 1 dose between the ages of 50 - >65 years

**Pneumococcal (polysaccharide)** – 1 or 2 doses between the ages of 19 and 64 years, then 1 dose >65 years

**Meningococcal** – 1 or more doses between the ages of 19 to >65 years

**Hepatitis A** – 2 doses between the ages of 19 to <65 years

**Hepatitis B** – 3 doses between the ages of 19 >65 years

There are other vaccines for adults based on medical and other indications.

For more information on adult vaccinations, please visit [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/acip-list.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/acip-list.htm).

As always, it's best to check with your doctor regarding your health issues and what vaccinations you may need.

### Sewer - An Important Amenity

When you think of things that make your life easier, the sewer usually doesn't come to mind right away. However, once you have a problem with your sewer system (or septic tank) and go without it for a few days it would most likely be pretty high on your list. In fact, it would probably be right behind water, food, and shelter. Think about it! Who doesn't enjoy their hot showers and restroom facilities?

Our Public Works crew keeps our sewer system running efficiently by addressing certain maintenance items every year. Their annual duties include sewer man-hole inspections and replacing worn-out sewer pipes, when needed.

When a sewer pipe gets clogged, the Public Works crew is required to get down and dirty to clean it out. This is actually a pretty hazardous job and can be dangerous, not only because they are required to get into a trench, but because of the deadly gases that are emitted.

The public can do its part in keeping the sewer system flowing smoothly. Please don't flush anything in your toilets or wash anything down your kitchen and bathroom sinks or drains that would ruin the sewer system. For example, grease is a big problem. Restaurants are required to install grease-traps in their kitchens. Sometimes clothing items have been found in a clogged sewer line - - - this is also a big no no! Oil and antifreeze (or other chemicals) should not be put into the sewer system either. This causes major problems.

According to Section 7-2-3 of the Brian Head Town Code "Any owner of property located within the town shall connect to the town system when a sewer main line is within three hundred feet (300') of any portion of the property boundary . . . ."

Brian Head is fortunate to have all 5 Public Works crew members certified in handling sewer issues. We are glad to live where there is a sewer system (or septic tank) and we appreciate those who take care of it – can you imagine life without this important amenity?

### **New Brian Head Chamber of Commerce Directors**

We'd like to introduce you to the new Brian Head Chamber of Commerce Directors. . . . Aaron and Emily Bradley! They have lived in both Cedar City and Parowan for the past 3 years. Prior to that, they lived in Phoenix, Arizona for 10 years.

Emily has an extensive background in art and enjoyed the position of Festival and Events Director in Arizona, producing the largest and oldest arts festival in the southwest - Tempe Festival of Arts. She has earned her Festival and Events Executive (CFEE) certificate, which is equivalent to a Master's Degree in the Festival and Events industry.

Aaron has a background in the arts as well – he being a painter, and loving his wife, spent many hours at events alongside her fixing a variety of issues including electrical, water, fire, and layout.

Aaron has a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Marketing, and has extensive knowledge of the insurance industry, where he has spent the past 15 years. He is currently working on obtaining his real estate license for the state of Utah.

Aaron and Emily are currently managing owners of Brian Head Vacation Rentals. They also manage the Aspens condominiums and are in the process of taking over the management of Chalet Village Phase A condominiums.

The Bradleys live in Parowan and enjoy the atmosphere of a small community and the excitement of Brian Head ski resort. They look forward to their positions as Directors of the Brian Head Chamber of Commerce. We're glad to have them here and wish them the best of luck!



**Emily Bradley**



**Aaron Bradley**

### **Brian Head Planning Commission**

The Brian Head Planning Commission has been updated. As of January 1, 2012, Clayton Calloway has been appointed as a Commission member (he has been serving as the alternate member) and Troy Katwyk has been re-appointed as a Commission member. Julie Saemisch is the new alternate member. Other members are Mac Hatch (Chair) and Betty Phelan (Vice Chair), and Doug Deutschlander.

This important Board meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of every month to discuss Planning issues. They are a recommending Board to the Town Council on Land Use issues.

If you need to meet with the Planning Commission, please contact Wendy Dowland, Planning Commission Secretary. You can call her at (435) 677-2029 or e-mail her at [wdowland@bhtown.utah.gov](mailto:wdowland@bhtown.utah.gov) to get on the agenda!



**Clayton Calloway and Julie Saemisch get sworn in as Planning Commission members by Nancy Leigh (Brian Head Town Clerk/Recorder) while Betty Phelan looks on (February 7, /2012)**

### Town Tidbits

- Watch for flyers for the annual Town clean-up day! It will be held sometime in late May or early June.
- Brian Head Resort will be closing on April 15, 2012

### Looking Towards a Brighter Future

*(continued from page 1)*

We have plenty of room for improvement and appreciate your ideas and insights. We look forward to the new dawn that provides opportunity for continual advancement and progress. I applaud our community leaders that have labored over tough issues with your interests in mind. While we see differing views on the means, I hope that you recognize the dedication of your elected officials and Town staff to provide you with the best services possible within the constraints that we are given.

Can it be better? Yes; are there are opportunities for great prosperity? Absolutely. I believe that those days are coming as we look towards a brighter future and work together to make it happen through each of our efforts. Tremendous outcomes are shaping the future of Brian Head as it continues to develop and evolve, I hope that you will take the time to enjoy this experience with us.

**"I have understood well that the duty of self-preservation rests solely with the American people."**

**-Abraham Lincoln**

### Councils' Corner . . . . .

*As many of you have heard, Brian Head Town is investigating the creation of a reservoir or pond in the meadow in front of the new Public Safety Building. Though the public response has been mostly enthusiastic and positive, several citizens have questioned the decision by the Town Council to consider such a thing. What follows is Councilmember Jim Ortler's response to one citizen.*

I think your thoughtful email deserves an answer. I am not representing the following as the town's position or that of any other member of the council. I am writing for myself and explaining my own perspective and why I voted to pursue the development of the recreational reservoir in Brian Head.

It starts with Utah water law. State regulations require so many acre feet of water rights and water storage for each equivalent residential unit (ERU). We have built the wells and the storage but Brian Head does not have enough water rights on the mountain to meet those state requirements. Technically, we should not be allowing any building or growth and we have been in this position for awhile. To solve this problem the town recently acquired some additional water rights but they are in the valley, not on the mountain.

Over a decade ago, the ski resort also attempted to transfer water from the valley to the mountain. The Parowan Irrigation District opposed this transfer and the lawsuits began. The settlement that was finally agreed to and subsequently approved by the state engineer provided that the resort would drill a well for use by the irrigation district and maintain it in perpetuity. The town has been advised that we would also have to satisfy the Parowan Irrigation District before we could transfer our water to Brian Head. Such a well would cost over a million bucks to construct and then we would put the Brian Head taxpayers on the hook for maintenance and upkeep forever.

Offline discussions resulted in a plan to store some water up here for release late in the summer or in the fall. By capturing and thus delaying the flow of the snowmelt, some spring flooding could be avoided. The captured water would then be held until after Labor Day when the farmers need the water. The farmers in the Parowan Valley would be better off than if we did the well. It would not commit the town to maintain a well and it would presumably cost substantially less. And it could be used as a recreational attraction by Brian Head.

Making this reservoir serve a dual purpose seems like a win-win proposition to me. I believe that the reservoir can be made to be as attractive as the meadow and would appeal to some of the tourists on whom we depend for our livelihood. Stocking it with fish would add another tourist activity to our resume. Winter ice skating would be another possibility. Because it is in the town limits, I think staff could keep it clean and attractive.

I have not missed the point of your message that we want to preserve the meadow but I believe that an attractive pond/reservoir is not at all incompatible with that goal. Perhaps this is indeed an area where well intentioned people simply disagree. But I think it would be good for tourism and very good for the budget and that is why I support the proposal.

*-Jim Ortler, Town Councilor*